GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2052
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
THREAT TO PLANT AND ANIMALS SPECIES
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of species of plants and animals are facing an uncertain future in Vidarbha and adjoining regions as per latest survey made on bio-diversity of the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the findings of the surveys undertaken in the State;

(c) the details of action plan formulated to deal with the situation revealed; and

(d) the status of action plan being implemented to protect flora and fauna facing extinction threat in the region and funds provided/proposed for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BALLU)

(a) & (b) According to surveys carried out by the Botanical Survey of India and Zoological Survey of India, 251 plant species and some animal species fall under the category of threatened species in Maharashtra. Out of these, very few species are recorded for Vidarbha.

(c) & (d) A protected area network consisting of 5 National Parks and 33 Wildlife sanctuaries has been established in Maharashtra for protecting the wildlife including the threatened species. Financial assistance is provided to State Government for the management of protected areas. During the period 1997-2000, an amount of Rs. 200 lakhs was provided for the National Parks and Sanctuaries in Maharashtra. A grant of Rs. 20.55 lakhs was also released during 1997-2000 to 5 existing botanic gardens in Maharashtra for ex-situ conservation of rare and endemic plants.